

# SPECIAL FILMS FOR CHILDREN

PLEASE NOTE  
RECOMMENDED  
AGES



Mondays at 10:30 a.m. at  
The Newark Public Library  
5 Washington Street  
Newark

Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m. at  
The Newark Museum  
Billy Johnson Auditorium  
49 Washington Street  
Newark

JULY 11 & 13

## *John Henry*

1993/animated video/30 min.  
Recommended for age 4 & up

The classic tale of the mighty steel-driving man is  
read by Denzel Washington with music by B.B. King  
and illustrations by Barry Jackson.

## *Follow the Drinking Gourd*

1993/animated video/30 min.  
Recommended for age 4 & up

Slaves on the road to freedom used the North Star  
as a compass and the song of the title was a map  
for their brave plans for escape. The story  
is read by Morgan Freeman with  
illustrations by Yvonne Buchanan  
and music by Taj Mahal.

JULY 18 & 20

## *Sesame Street 25th Birthday Celebration*

The Newark Black Film Festival salutes  
the 25th Birthday of Children's Television  
Workshop's *Sesame Street* and applauds its  
efforts to create a world of understanding  
between all peoples (and muppets!).  
Excerpts from past *Sesame Street* shows  
will be screened and *Sesame Street*  
resident, Susan (Loretta Long), will be  
present to talk with the audience in  
person on July 20.

JULY 25 & 27

## *Koi and the Kola Nuts*

animated video/30 min.

Recommended for ages 5 to 12

This is a charming story from Africa read by  
Whoopi Goldberg with music by Herbie Hancock and  
illustrations by Reynold Ruffins.

## *Where in the World, Volume 3: Kids Explore Kenya*

video/30 min. Recommended for ages 5 to 12

Energetic kids take a home-town safari to make their  
own movie and discover the secrets of this  
African nation. Herd cattle with nomads,  
unearth ancient skulls and experience  
tribal customs and the importance  
of family life.



The Newark Museum  
University Heights  
49 Washington Street  
P. O. Box 540  
Newark, New Jersey 07101

NEWARK BLACK FILM FESTIVAL  
1994  
20th Anniversary



# 20th Anniversary

1994 marks the 20th anniversary of the Newark Black Film Festival, a summer festival of films by black filmmakers and films featuring the history and culture of black people in America and elsewhere. In the nineteen years since its first season in 1975, the Newark Black Film Festival has attracted a national reputation and has been called the best and longest running festival of its kind in the nation. It has been recognized by *The New York Times*, *The Star-Ledger*, *Variety* and the *Village Voice* among other media. Since 1977, a committee representing the sponsors and the community has arranged the Festival and selected the films. In the past nineteen years, 427 films have been viewed by an audience of over 82,000 adults and children.

Funding for the 1994 Festival has come from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State. Children's Films funded by a generous grant from The Leavens Foundation, Inc.

## Co-Sponsors:

The Newark Museum  
The Newark Public Library  
Newark Symphony Hall  
New Jersey Institute of Technology  
Rutgers, The State University  
(Newark Campus)



NEW JERSEY  
STATE  
COUNCIL  
ON THE  
ARTS

**PLEASE NOTE:** Admission is free to all programs, which will begin promptly at 7:00 p.m. Seating is on a first-come, first-served basis. There will be one screening only each evening. Due to fire regulations, there will be no admission once theater seating is filled to capacity. Tickets are not necessary at Symphony Hall. Group tickets subject to availability. Groups of 25 or more must make arrangements in advance by calling (201) 596-6550.

## FILM SOURCES

*Carmen Jones*  
Films, Inc.  
5547 N. Ravenswood Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60640-1199

Films by Marlon Riggs  
*Signifyin' Works*  
2600 Tenth Street, Suite 401  
Berkeley, CA 94710

*Midnight Ramble*  
African Diaspora Images  
P.O. Box 3517  
Brooklyn, NY 11202

*Alma's Rainbow*  
Red Carnelian Films  
300 West 55th Street  
New York, NY 10019

*La Vie Est Belle*  
*Quartier Mozart*  
*Afrique Je Te Plumerai*  
California Newsreel  
149 Ninth Street  
San Francisco, CA 94103

*Neria*  
KJM3 Entertainment Group, Inc.  
274 Madison Avenue, Suite 501  
New York, NY 10016

*Ava and Gabriel*  
Holland Film Promotion  
Jan Luykenstraat 2  
1071 CM Amststerdam, The Netherlands

Special Films for Children  
The Newark Public Library  
5 Washington Street  
Newark, NJ 07101

Special Sesame Street Film,  
not available

## BLACK FILM FESTIVAL

### COMMITTEE

A member of the selection committee will host each evening's program.

Flora B. Baldwin,  
Comprehensive Planner,  
City of East Orange

Gloria Hopkins Buck,  
Social Worker,  
Division of Child Guidance,  
Newark Board of Education

Dennis Burroughs,  
Independent Filmmaker

Wilma Grey,  
Assistant Director of  
Community Library Services,  
The Newark Public Library

Thomas C. Guy, Jr.,  
Independent Producer, Director,  
Filmmaker

Theodore Johnson,  
Director of Compliance and Training  
New Jersey Institute of Technology

Clarence C. Lilley, President,  
Theater of Universal Images

Clement Alexander Price,  
Professor of History,  
Rutgers University (Newark Campus)

Mary Sue Sweeney Price,  
Director,  
The Newark Museum

Jane W. Rappaport,  
Program Coordinator,  
The Newark Museum

Richard Wesley,  
Scriptwriter and Playwright

Oliver Franklin,  
Member Emeritus

## Special Thanks to:

The Black Filmmakers Hall of Fame

Donald Bogle, Film historian

California Newsreel for support of  
AFRICA ON FILM

Children's Television Workshop

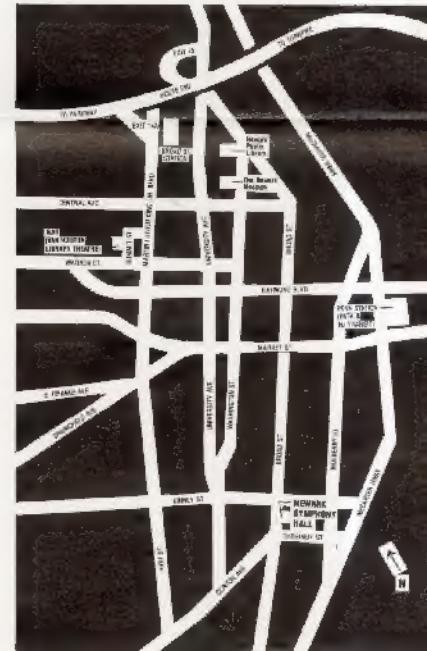
John Gregory Clermons, Manager,  
Internal Communications,  
Contel Telephones Operations

Michelle Materre, KJM3

Gil Noble, Producer/Host, "Like It Is",  
WABC-TV

Prof. Harold Weaver, Third World  
Moving Images Project

John Williams, writer



# BLACK FILM FEST

# 1994



# 20th Anniversary



Filmmaker  
Ayoka Chenzira

The Newark Museum  
Billy Johnson Auditorium  
49 Washington Street  
Newark, NJ

The Newark Public Library  
5 Washington Street  
Newark, NJ

Newark Symphony Hall  
1020 Broad Street  
Newark, NJ

Van Houten Library Theatre  
New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT)  
99 Summit Street  
Newark, NJ

All programs are at 7:00 p.m.  
Distinguished guest speakers at each screening.

ADMISSION  
IS FREE.

JUNE 29 7p.m.

THE CURTAIN RISES:  
20 YEARS  
OF BLACK FILM MAKING  
at Newark Symphony Hall

Host: Richard Wesley  
Guest Speaker: Professor Edward Guerrero,  
author of "Framing Blackness: The African  
American Image in Film"

*Carmen Jones*

1954/35mm/107 min.

Directed by Otto Preminger

Dorothy Dandridge, Harry Belafonte, Pearl  
Bailey, Olga James, Joe Adams, Diahann Carroll,  
Brock Peters and Alvin Ailey star in this  
adaptation of Bizet's opera about a  
tragic love triangle.



JULY 6 7p.m.

MEMORIAL TRIBUTE  
TO MARLON RIGGS

at Van Houten Library Theatre, NJIT

Host: Clement Alexander Price  
Guest Speaker to be announced

Montage of Films directed by Marlon Riggs  
(*Tongues Untied*, *Ethnic Notions*, *Color Adjustment* et al)

JULY 13 7p.m.

SISTERS  
BEHIND THE CAMERA

at Van Houten Library Theatre, NJIT

*Black Is...Black Ain't*

1994 work in progress/video/30-45 min.

Directed by Marlon Riggs

Marlon Riggs lost his struggle with AIDS last April while  
continuing to work on *Black Is...Black Ain't*. All of  
Marlon's other films seem to lead toward this  
discerning observation of  
African-American culture.



Charles Lucas and Evelyn Preer in Oscar Micheaux's *The Homesteader*.

Guest Speakers: Pearl Bowser, filmmaker  
Ayoka Chenzira, filmmaker

### *Midnight Ramble: The Story of Oscar Micheaux and Race Movies*

1994/video/58 min. Directed by Bester Cram and Pearl Bowser In the first half of the century black audiences attended after-hours screenings in segregated movie houses—a "midnight ramble" to see films made especially for the African-American market. The little-known American phenomenon called "race movies" is examined in this remarkable documentary.

### *Alma's Rainbow*

1993/35mm/85 min. Directed by Ayoka Chenzira The ordered life of a sexually-repressed black woman devoted to being the "good mother" is threatened by her teenage daughter's sexual awakening and the arrival of her free-spirited sister.

JULY 19 7p.m.

### AFRICA ON FILM

at The Newark Museum

Host: Theodore Johnson  
Guest Speaker: Dr. Clyde Taylor, founder of  
The African Film Society

### *La Vie Est Belle (Life is Rosy)*

1987/85 min./video Zaire/Belgium  
French with English subtitles  
Directed by Ngangura Mweze and Benoit Lamy  
Kourou, a youthful singer from the Zairian countryside, achieves superstardom in sprawling Kinshasha in this lively farce.

### *Quartier Mozart*

1992/color/video/80 minutes Cameroon  
French with English subtitles  
Produced and directed by Jean-Pierre Bekolo  
Forty-eight hours in the life of a young schoolgirl, Queen of the Hood, still "proud, like a woman who has never known men." A frank look at the sexual politics and popular culture of the neighborhood.  
Recommended for older teenagers and adults only.



Landu Nzungimbu as Mamu in *La Vie Est Belle*.

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JULY 20 7p.m.

### AFRICA ON FILM

at The Newark Museum

Host: Flora Baldwin  
Guest Speaker to be announced

### *Neria*

1992/color/16mm/103 min. Zimbabwe  
Produced and Directed by Godwin Mawuru  
A riveting portrayal of a woman who is moved to seek justice after tragedy and abuse of traditional practices threaten to destroy her family.

Marlon Riggs, 1957-1994

JULY 21 7p.m.

### AFRICA ON FILM

at The Newark Museum

Host: Thomas C. Guy, Jr.  
Guest Speaker: Dr. Patrick Caulker,  
History Department Chair, Seton Hall University

### *Afrique, Je Te Plumerai* (Africa, I Fleece You)

1992/16mm/88 min. Cameroon  
Produced and Directed by Jean-Marie Teno  
French with English subtitles  
This outstanding documentary provides a provocative analysis of one-hundred years of colonization and cultural genocide in Africa and its effect on African society today.



African filmmaker Godwin Mawuru.

JULY 27 7p.m.

### Love and Loathing Under a Caribbean Sun

at The Newark Museum

Host: Dennis Burroughs  
Guest Speaker to be announced

### *Ava & Gabriel*

1990/35mm/100 min.  
Directed by Felix de Rooy  
Cinematography by Ernest Dickerson  
An unexpected love affair is the catalyst for ethnic and emotional revelations within the Dutch Antilles community of Curaçao in 1948.



Historical photograph from *Afrique, Je Te Plumerai*